

Everything You Always Wanted to Know About FED LOG



Many folks have no problem with FED LOG NIIN/NSN/PSCN queries because they use 'em all the time. But how about using FED LOG as a research tool? Or using its wild card feature—the asterisk [*]—to get an NSN for the part you need?



Army users should always use the **Army Interactive Query** because that's where you find the AMDF, SB 700-20 and other Army-unique data. Clicking on the green tank gets you there quickly. Then check out these research tips on the most common query types (QT).

* The **Part Number (PN)** query lets you search for items by PN or partial PN.

The standard search can be up to 32 alpha-numeric characters long. You should remove special characters like slashes (/) and dashes (-) since FED LOG will ignore them anyway.

Wild card searches require at least one character followed by the asterisk. Partial PNs use the wild card to search the FED LOG file. All QTs use the asterisk to identify wild card searches and it is always the last character in the input data. The system lists all NSNs that match your part number.

Wild card searches will list all NSNs with a PN that starts with your partial PN input. The wild card is handy when all you have is a partial PN.

* The **Item Name** query lets you search using the name you call the part.

Just input the words you use to identify the part and FED LOG will do the rest. Make sure each word is separated by a comma or space and is no longer than 32 alpha-numeric characters. You need at least one character, then the asterisk and a space or comma between each word to use the wild card.

All NSNs that match the words you input will be listed. Wild card output will include all NSNs that use the partial words in any way within its own item name.

* The **Characteristics** query lets you search by item characteristics—size, voltage ratings, material composition, etc, or with partial characteristics when using the wild card.

Each characteristic can be up to 32 alpha-numeric positions long and must be separated by a comma or space when more than one characteristic is input. The space or comma comes after the asterisk when using the wild card.

All NSNs that use the characteristics you input will be listed. Wild card results will include all NSNs that use the partial data anywhere in its characteristics.

Be sure you limit the use of **Item Name** and **Characteristics** queries to general purpose needs. If the part has any special needs—like material composition and tolerances or precision sizing—contact your local US Army Materiel Command (AMC) Logistics Assistance Office (LAO) for help. They can quickly and accurately ID your parts and help you avoid equipment failure and personnel injury.

FED LOG even lets you use some QTs together so you can more exactly define your search. The following chart shows which QTs can be used together (identified with the X) or only used individually (identified with the O). The O means that one of the items can be used with the QT and all items with an X, but never at the same time as other O items.

Query Type (QT) Usage Chart

QT	PN	CAGE	SN	IN
Part Number (PN)		O	O	X
CAGE Code (CAGE)	X			
Supplier Name (SN)	X			X
Item Name (IN)	X	O	O	

Increase your understanding of FED LOG by using its tutorial (click on the red apple), its user's manual (click on the open book) or by going to its web site at <http://www.fedlog.com/>.

